

JEFF BEQUEATHS
TITLE TO FITZ

Champion Heavy Weight, in Beating From the Ring, Says Lanky Bob Gave Him the Hardest Fight of His Ring Career.

CHICAGO, May 8.—James J. Jeffries, champion heavy-weight pugilist of the world, who is filling an engagement as Dave Crockett in a West Side theater, announced today that he had retired permanently from the ring and had bequeathed the title of champion to Bob Fitzsimmons.

"I never was liked, and I am the only man who ever liked Fitzsimmons," he said. "Bob gave me the hardest fight of my ring career, and he is clearly entitled to the honors which I now surrender."

Jeffries is suffering with muscular rheumatism in his hands, and his nightly boxing exhibitions are very painful to him. He will be quiet for some time, but he will not retire from the stage and the ring.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

STANDING OF THE CLUBS.

| Club | W. | L. | Pct. | Club | W. | L. | Pct. |
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| Chicago | 8 | 8 | .500 | Cincinnati | 7 | 9 | .437 |
| St. Louis | 7 | 9 | .437 | Washington | 6 | 10 | .375 |

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RUSSIAN LIGHT
IN GREAT SHAPE

Greatest Wrestler in the World Getting in Condition for Exhibition With George Baptiste in Coliseum Friday Night.

George Hackenschmidt, wrestler extraordinary, from the realms of the great White Bear, is getting ready for his match with George Baptiste, which takes place at the Coliseum next Friday evening. This means that Hack is simply trying to figure out whether he will be better to fight George three times in two minutes, or let him stick for half an hour or so.

As a match the Hackenschmidt-Baptiste bout is no contest. The Russian can throw George just as quickly as an ordinary man could come and open a jackknife. But the spectacle of seeing this giant of muscle in action will attract a crowd.

This product of the steppes, fresh from his victory over Tom Jenkins, the Newburg Hercules, of Cleveland, O., is a most important figure in the realm of sport at present.

As a wrestler George Hackenschmidt has no peer anywhere in the world. He has met and conquered all the kings of the mat of Europe, and is in America to exploit some of his prowess at the game of grapple.

No man known to the sporting public in the world to-day is a match for this giant Russian. Recently he met Madral, a Terrible Turk, one of the best wrestlers in the world, and he defeated him in a most extraordinary manner. Madral and Hack met at the Crystal Palace in London, and the Russian was victorious in a most extraordinary manner.

Big, terrible Turk as he was, Madral was a child in the iron grasp of the Russian, and after a few minutes he had to discontinue, as Hackenschmidt in his bear-like hug broke the Turk's shoulder.

Previous to this fight the Russian accomplished the defeat of Nooroukh.

When Nooroukh toured America he met the best men in the country, and threw them as fast as they could rise from the mat.

He met Charley Wittmer, a Cincinnati product, here a few winters ago. Wittmer weighed 220 pounds. The Turk was slightly less than a ton. His exact weight was not announced, but a day before he met Nooroukh he was seen with a man who weighed 320 pounds. Nooroukh was 6 feet 6 inches tall, and he was a most formidable opponent.

When Hackenschmidt met the Terrible Turk in Paris, France, and after a terrific struggle he won, and the Turk was thrown.

From Hackenschmidt's performance it will be easily seen what chance Baptiste has with this marvelous man from Russia.

Did he care to do so he could pick Baptiste up and hurl him into the audience, but the match will be a most interesting one, simply an exhibition, that will have for its central figure George Hackenschmidt, the greatest light wrestler to-day.

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BEECHER WINS THE FEATURE
EVENT AT UNION RACE COURSE

Thell Brown's Colt Has Little Trouble in Beating Home in Front of Loughlighter and Be Runny.

Beecher, Thell Brown's good colt, had an exercise gallop in the feature race at Union yesterday, when he beat home in front of Loughlighter in the fourth event. He opened at 2 to 1 in the betting, but there was no money on him, and the bookies refused to accept any of the wagers at that figure and promptly "rubbed" him to 5 to 1.

Even at that price only a few small bets got on, and he finally went to the post 7 to 1. Beecher packed only six pounds.

De Runny and Fairbury, who were "touted" as "good things," warmed up sore. Loughlighter went back of her race of last Saturday, and the best he could do was to finish second. De Runny was third.

Off to a good start, R. Lowe soon had Beecher to the front, and he was leading him for half a mile and then gave way to Loughlighter. Fairbury ran duly, and the best he could do was fourth in a field of four starters.

The next important race of note was the second race of the 2-year-old colts. Polly Prim showed to be a filly of some class when she galloped all the way, beating Wade Martin and Sultry. Sultry was off and had to run over the rest of his field, but it is improbable that he could have beaten Polly with an even break.

Anderson's clever ride on Alton, a colt who had been in the hands of the trainers, was a most interesting feature. He was hunched in front of Sultry. It was an initial appearance on the track this season.

Stalker, W. Newman's bay gelding, won the opening race much as he pleased. He was cleverly handled by Sullivan, and he was a half mile and then gave way to Loughlighter. Fairbury ran duly, and the best he could do was fourth in a field of four starters.

The third race, a six and one-half furlong event, went to Lady Ray. The Lady was off to a good start, and maintained her speed until the end of the race. She was second. The Jew was third. The Jew was a pretender to class, but on recent races has not shown much form. The race was a most interesting one.

Watermelon, "good things" performer in the fifth event. A few of the wise betters were "good things" performers. When Watermelon opened a good break and he was a half mile and then gave way to Loughlighter. Fairbury ran duly, and the best he could do was fourth in a field of four starters.

Trainer displayed some clever jockeying in the last event. He was a half mile and then gave way to Loughlighter. Fairbury ran duly, and the best he could do was fourth in a field of four starters.

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